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FM AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5938
INFO RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING PRIORITY 5716
RUEHLM/AMEMBASSY COLOMBO PRIORITY 6022
RUEHKA/AMEMBASSY DHAKA PRIORITY 1251
RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY 4044
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY 5332
RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY 1430
RUEHCI/AMCONSUL KOLKATA PRIORITY 3459
RHMFISS/13AF ANDERSEN AFB GU PRIORITY
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY 1635
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 2666
RHEFDIA/DIA WASHDC PRIORITY
RHMFISS/CDR USPACOM HONOLULU HI PRIORITY
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC PRIORITY
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L KATHMANDU 000972

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STATE FOR IO, G/AIAG, T/ISN

E.O. 12958: DECL: 05/16/2017

TAGS: [TBIO](#) [ARC](#) [PREL](#) [KFLU](#) [WHO](#) [NP](#)

SUBJECT: DEMARCHE DELIVERED: KEY U.S. OBJECTIVES AT THE
ANNUAL WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY

REF: STATE 61739

Classified By: Acting Deputy Chief of Mission Robert Hugins. Reasons 1
.4 (b/d).

Foreign Ministry Informed

[1](#)1. (C) Emboff delivered reftel talking points on May 10 to Mani Battarai, Section Officer for the United Nations at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, stressing the importance of Nepal's continued cooperation with the World Health Association (WHA) on the issues of pandemic influenza preparedness and ongoing smallpox virus research. Battarai replied that the Foreign Ministry was pleased to know the U.S. position but that the Ministry of Health and Population had the lead on these issues.

Health Ministry Engaged

[1](#)2. (C) On May 16, USAID spoke with Arjun Bahadur Singh, Joint Secretary and Chief of the Planning, Policies and

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International Cooperation Division of the Ministry of Health.

The Joint Secretary stated that he had received the talking points from the Foreign Ministry and had shared them with both of the Health Ministry representatives who were now attending the WHA meeting in Geneva. Singh stated that the Ministry representatives, Giriraj Mani Pokharel and Dr. Nirakar Man Shrestha, were both fully aware of the issues outlined in the U.S. demarche and would carefully consider them during the proceedings.

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